

Abstract

For my thesis I designed and constructed an art exhibition that incorporates many mediums with a focus on ceramic fine art. Conceptually, my thesis explores being human, our basic psychological needs, and our relationship to the natural world. The purpose of my project is to create a series of work that together form an immersive environment for the viewer that asks them to contemplate their role as a natural being within our world and to also consider the basics for human happiness. The final product of my thesis is an art exhibition in the atrium gallery.

To Be Human is a culmination of techniques, materials and many of the conceptual ideas my art has focused on over the years. This project fulfills my desire to create an entire space that forms an environment for the viewer to experience and interact with. By creating an entire space, my work has the possibility of a more encompassing effect on the viewer. This project has added to my knowledge in the use of various materials, such as ceramic, wood, steel, and glass, and the combination of those materials. While I have used all of these materials before, this project has demanded a lot of problem solving as I have figured out how to put everything together to bring my vision to reality.

My show in the simplest terms is about being human, so it will be intended for everyone. I hope viewers will take away from my show a desire to be more connected with our natural surroundings and the present moment. I also hope they leave with a deeper understanding of our basic needs in order to lead a more fruitful and happy life. There are many conceptual meanings that I intend my art to convey, but I also hope that viewers gain a greater appreciation for the materials and techniques I use and for art and beauty as a whole.

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